

Naturalization Eligibility Worksheet

Instructions

What is the purpose of this worksheet?

The attached "Eligibility Worksheet" will help you decide if you are eligible to apply for naturalization. **You do not need to send the completed worksheet to INS. This worksheet is only for you to use to decide if you should apply for naturalization.**

Who **SHOULD** complete this worksheet?

Individuals 18 years of age or older who are thinking about applying for naturalization based on their years as Permanent Residents.

Who **SHOULD NOT** use this worksheet?

The following groups of people have different eligibility requirements for naturalization and **SHOULD NOT** use this worksheet to decide if they are eligible:

- Individuals under 18 years of age who want to apply for naturalization based on their parents' or adopted parents' citizenship (see questions 24-25 on pages 13-15 in *A Guide to Naturalization* for information on how to obtain citizenship).
- Permanent Residents whose spouses were U.S. citizens who died while on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (see pages 18-19 in *A Guide to Naturalization* for information on your naturalization requirements).
- Individuals who want to apply for naturalization based on active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces (see pages 18-19 in *A Guide to Naturalization* for information on your naturalization requirements).
- Spouses of U.S. citizens if the U.S. citizen is (a) a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, (b) an employee or contractor of the U.S. Government, (c) an employee of an American institution of research, (d) an employee of an American-owned firm, (e) an employee of a public international organization, or (f) a clergy member (see pages 20-21 in *A Guide to Naturalization* for more information).

Directions for the Eligibility Worksheet:

1. Answer the questions on the worksheet by checking "True" or "Not True." If you answer "Not True" to certain questions, you may be asked to answer additional questions on pages 3-4. Most applicants will **NOT** need to answer the questions on pages 3-4.
2. If you have completed the worksheet and believe you are eligible for naturalization, please call the INS Forms Line (1-800-870-3676) to request an application (Form N-400). A final decision will be made once you submit an application, take a citizenship test, and are interviewed.
3. If you have completed the worksheet and you still have questions regarding your eligibility, you should read *A Guide to Naturalization*. You may also wish to get advice from an immigrant assistance organization or immigration attorney.








Naturalization Eligibility Worksheet

	True	Not True
1. I am at least 18 years old.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
2. I am a Permanent Resident of the United States, and I have been issued a Permanent Resident Card (formerly called Alien Registration Card).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
3. I have been a Permanent Resident for:		
5 years or more*	↓	
3 to 5 years*	↓	
less than 3 years	↓	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
	See Attachment A on page 3	

	True	Not True
4. During the last 5 years, I have NOT been out of the United States for 30 months or more.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → For exceptions see Attachment B on page 3.
5. Since becoming a Permanent Resident, I have not taken a trip out of the United States that lasted for 1 year or more.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → For exceptions see Attachment C on page 3.
6. I have resided in the district or state in which I am applying for citizenship for the last 3 months.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → You must wait until you have lived in the state or district for 3 months to apply.
7. I can read, write, and speak basic English.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → For exceptions see Attachment D on page 4.
8. I can pass the civics test.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP → For exceptions see Attachment E on page 4.
Go to question 9.		

*INS allows naturalization applicants to file their applications 3 months before they have satisfied the "continuous residence" requirement.

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	True	Not True	
9. I am a person of good moral character.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
10. One of the following is true: (a) I am female, OR (b) I am a male registered with the Selective Service, OR (c) I am a male who did not enter the United States under any status until after my 26th birthday, OR (d) I am a male who was born before January 1, 1960, OR (e) I am a male who was in the United States between the ages of 18 and 26 but who did not register with the Selective Service, and I will send a "Status Information Letter" from the Selective Service explaining why with my application.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
11. I have never deserted from the U.S. Armed Forces.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
12. I have never received an exemption or discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces on the grounds that I am an alien.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
13. I am willing to perform either military OR civilian service for the United States if required by law. (Note: if your religious teachings and beliefs prohibit you from performing military service, you must be willing to perform non-military service.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
14. I will support the U.S. Constitution.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
15. I understand and am willing to take an oath of allegiance to the United States.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.

STOP HERE: You are probably eligible to apply for naturalization.
Please call the Forms Line (1-800-870-3676) for an "Application for Naturalization" (Form N-400)
and be sure to read *A Guide to Naturalization*.

Attachment A — Naturalization Eligibility Worksheet

I have been a Permanent Resident for 3 to 5 years.

I am married to and living with a U.S. citizen.

True

☐

Not True

☐

You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.

I have been married to that U.S. citizen for at least the past 3 years.

☐☐

You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.

My spouse has been a U.S. citizen for at least the past 3 years.

☐☐

You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.

During the past 3 years, I have *not* been out of the country for 18 months or more.

☐☐

You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.



If you answered "true" to all 4 questions, go to question 5 on page 1.

Attachment B

I have been out of the country for 30 months or more.

- I am: (a) a person who has served on board a vessel operated by or registered in the United States, **OR**
(b) an employee or an individual under contract to the U.S. Government, **OR**
(c) a person who performs ministerial or priestly functions for a religious denomination or an interdenominational organization with a valid presence in the United States.

True

☐

Not True

☐

You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.



If you answered "true," see pages 20-21 in *A Guide to Naturalization* to get more information and go to question 5 on page 1.

Attachment C

I have been out of the country for one year or more.

Since becoming a Permanent Resident, I have not taken a trip out of the United States that lasted for 1 year or more without an approved "Application to Preserve Residence for Naturalization Purposes" (Form N-470).

True

☐

Not True

☐








You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.



Note: only certain people can use the N-470. See pages 18-21 in *A Guide to Naturalization* for more information.

If you answered "true," go to question 6 on page 1.

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9. I am a person of good moral character.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
10. One of the following is true: (a) I am female, OR (b) I am a male registered with the Selective Service, OR (c) I am a male who did not enter the United States under any status until after my 26th birthday, OR (d) I am a male who was born before January 1, 1960, OR (e) I am a male who was in the United States between the ages of 18 and 26 but who did not register with the Selective Service, and I will send a "Status Information Letter" from the Selective Service explaining why with my application.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
11. I have never deserted from the U.S. Armed Forces.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
12. I have never received an exemption or discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces on the grounds that I am an alien.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
13. I am willing to perform either military OR civilian service for the United States if required by law. (Note: if your religious teachings and beliefs prohibit you from performing military service, you must be willing to perform non-military service.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
14. I will support the U.S. Constitution.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.
15. I understand and am willing to take an oath of allegiance to the United States.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  →	You are not eligible to apply for naturalization.

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